

We have written the above to guard the continental tourist in his researches, from placing too much faith in the assertions of his accompanying "cicerone."
W. H. PEPYS, Jun.
Cologne.

CHURCH OF ST. PETER'S, HOWDEN.

A strong appeal for funds to restore this edifice has been issued; we sincerely hope it may be responded to satisfactorily, notwithstanding that it is dated "Feast of All Saints," and bears, unfortunately, other party badges. From the document in question we learn the following particulars of the early history of the building and its present state:—

"Before making an appeal on behalf of the church of St. Peter's, Howden, perhaps it will not be uninteresting to give a rapid sketch of its early history.

There was a church and priest at Howden at the time of the Domesday survey. In the days of King Edward the Confessor, the manor, church, and lands were wrested from the monastery of Peterborough, and being in the king's hands, William the Conqueror gave them to the Bishop of Durham, who gave them to the monks of Durham. The church was first a parochial chapel, in the patronage of the priory of Durham, and a.d. 1267, Archbishop Walter Grey ordained five prebendaries, one of whom as an benefactor to orderly keep his turn, and serve the cure of the parish by his respective priest, and further ordained that the prebendary of Howden should be the first prebendary, and free from all cure of souls.

The great patron and architect of this church was Walter Skirlaw, Bishop of Durham, to whose taste and spirit we are indebted for one of the most glorious ecclesiastical edifices in the kingdom. It is true, in extent and proportion it may find many not only to compete with, but also to surpass it; but it will bear the severest comparison with the most enriched, in elaborateness of detail and finish. Like many similar structures, it has been the work of successive periods, though probably in its general construction the completion of one original design.

By reference to Hutchinson's 'History of Durham,' vol. iii., we find copies of the charters, &c., of Howden, from which it appears that a.d. 1268, the church was made collegiate. It is, therefore, more than probable that the re-building is posterior to that date. Indeed, we may conjecture it to have been in the following order, and the architectural evidences of the building confirm the supposition:—

- I. The nave, transepts, and tower, up to the leads;
- II. The choir and chapter-house; and
- III. The lantern-tower and school.

The whole may be included in the period from a.d. 1280 to a.d. 1400. (Bishop Skirlaw died 1405.) The particular dates it would be hazardous to fix, nor is it necessary.

At present the choir is in perfect ruin, as also, in great part, the chapter-house. The portions of the building now in sufficient repair for the purposes of Divine worship are the nave and transepts. And here it is not too much to say, that it would not be possible to over-rate the zeal and honourable pride of the parishioners, which have led them to no ordinary sacrifices in order that their house of prayer should not lie waste. And first and foremost have stood forth the respected vicar and his excellent churchwardens, who, mindful of the high responsibilities of their office, and with the true spirit of worthy sons of the church, have counted no sacrifices too great, and no exertions too severe, which could prove the means of putting this sacred fabric into a condition so as securely to stand the admiration and delight of four centuries to come, as it has been of the four which have passed away.

The appeal on behalf of this church is made as for a great national undertaking, to preserve and restore an edifice which may serve as a school and model for present and future instruction to the admirers of ecclesiastical architecture, which might well excite pride in our forefathers, but we fear, in these days of coldness, will be the object of our envy rather than our imitation."

SUPPLY OF WATER TO THE METROPOLIS.

At a recent meeting of the Statistical Society, Mr. J. Fletcher, the honorary secretary, gave an outline of the present system of supplying the metropolis with water. London, in the first instance, derived its supply of water from shallow wells, from the Walbrook, and other streams descending from the north, and from the Thames itself, by direct carriage. In the reign of Henry III., the corporation obtained liberty to bring water from Tyburn, which they did by means of a six-inch leaden pipe carried to Charing-cross, and thence to several conduits in the city. In 1438 the corporation brought water from Highbury to a conduit opposite Cripplegate Church. In the following year the supply to the cisterns at Tyburn was augmented by the waters of some springs at Paddington, obtained from the Abbot of Westminster. This continued to be the only great source of supply until the middle of the sixteenth century, although the water of various springs in the neighbouring fields were brought to supply particular buildings or localities in the city; the conduits at Holborn-cross and on Snow-hill deriving their water from the springs collected into Lamb's-conduit, near the present Red Lion-street; that at Aldgate from springs at Hackney; one in Lothbury from springs between Hoxton and Islington; the Charterhouse from White Conduit-fields, and Christ's Hospital from the Devil's conduit, north-east of the present Brunswick-square. In 1543 an Act was passed to enable the corporation to bring water from Hampstead Heath, St. Marylebone, and Hackney. Nor was it until 1568 that Thames water was raised by machinery for the supply of London.

The New River Company supplies all the metropolis north of the Thames from Charing-cross, Tottenham-court-road and the Hampstead-road, on the west, to the Tower, Shoreditch, and the Kingsland road, with Dalston, on the east; the East London Waterworks Company, all those portions which lie to the east of the City, Shoreditch, the Kingsland-road and Dalston, extending their mains even across the river Lea into Essex, as far as West Ham; the Chelsea Waterworks, the whole of Westminster and the suburban parishes, south and west of Charing-cross, Pall Mall, St. James's-street, Park-lane, and the Uxbridge-road, as far as Kensington-palace; the Grand Junction Waterworks Company, the great square of town included by Oxford-street, Princes-street, St. James's-park, the Green-park, and Hyde-park, the Park-square district, between the Edgware-road, the Uxbridge-road and the Regent's Canal, and a considerable district in the angle formed by the western end of Oxford-street and the southern end of the Edgware-road; the West Middlesex Waterworks Company, all that portion of the town lying west of Tottenham-court-road and the Hampstead-road, and north of Oxford-street, the Edgware-road and the Regent's Canal, with the exception of the part near the junction of Oxford-street and Edgware-road, which is supplied by the Grand Junction Waterworks—the West Middlesex Waterworks also supply Baywater and the suburban parishes of Kennington, Fulham, Hammersmith and Chiswick; the Southwark Waterworks, nearly the whole of the parishes of St. George and St. Saviour, Southwark; the Lambeth Waterworks Company, the whole of the parish of Lambeth and parts adjacent; the South London Waterworks Company, which is also called the Vauxhall Waterworks Company, it was calculated in 1830, supplied above 300,000,000 of gallons. In addition to the works mentioned, there are the Kent Waterworks, which supply Deptford, Greenwich, Woolwich, and Rotherhithe. The quantity of water raised by the eight great metropolitan companies in 1833 appears to have been equal to 357,288,907 imperial barrels; the number of houses and buildings supplied 191,066; and the average daily supply above 35,000,000 of gallons, or 183 gallons to each person served, on the average.

WESTMINSTER IMPROVEMENTS.—The committee have plans now before them from Messrs. Tarring, Donthorn, Lupidge, Lewer, Alders, S. Smirke, Bardwell, H. H. Russell, and Abraham. The plan of the latter gentleman is that known as "Mr. Watson's."

THE SMOKE NUISANCE.

The preamble and chief enactment of the "Bill to prohibit the nuisance of smoke from furnaces or manufactories," introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. Mackinnon are as follow:—

"Whereas great loss of fuel arises from the mismanagement of the fires of manufactories, and much injury to the health and comfort of the people is occasioned by the smoke issuing from the furnaces and chimneys thereof, and of the furnaces and chimneys of plying steam-boats on rivers within the jurisdiction of towns or populous places, and the same can be remedied by proper care and attention; be it enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and immediately after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for the justices of the peace for any county, riding or division, usually acting in any special sessions divisions, and for the justices of the peace for any city, borough or place at any special sessions respectively, from time to time to appoint any police officer or other proper person, and they are thereby required so to do, to be inspector of smoke nuisances within the limits of such special sessions division, city, borough, or place, or any part thereof respectively; and such appointment from time to time to alter or cancel, as such justices in special sessions shall from time to time think fit, and to allow to such inspectors, or any one or more of them, such salary as the said justices in special sessions shall from time to time think fit; or in the case of any such inspector being a paid policeman, to require him to perform the duties of inspector of smoke nuisances, without any additional salary; every such salary to be charged upon and payable out of the county rate, or such fund as is charged with the salaries of policemen for the district for which any such inspector is appointed; and if there be more than one such fund, then in such proportions as the said justices in special sessions shall from time to time think fit.

And be it enacted, that from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, it shall not be lawful for the occupier of any furnace or chimney to permit noxious smoke to issue from such chimney for any longer period of time than is necessary for the kindling of the fire of such furnace in connection with such chimney, and previous to the running of any engine connected therewith, which time allowed for kindling such fire shall not exceed fifteen minutes during one day.

And be it enacted, that from and after the said first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, if opaque smoke shall be suffered to issue from any such chimney for any greater number of minutes than is hereinbefore limited in that behalf, the occupier, or any one of the occupiers of such chimney, shall for every first offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding forty shillings, nor less than twenty shillings; and for every second offence, any sum not exceeding pounds, nor less than forty shillings; and for every additional offence, any sum not exceeding pounds, nor less than

pounds; to be recovered in a summary way before any two or more justices of the peace, in and for the county, riding, division, city, borough or place, wherein the offence shall be committed: provided always, that if such defaulter shall charge that the offence mentioned in such summons was committed, if at all, through the negligence or wilful misconduct of any other person, it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace of the county, riding, division, city or place, on the application of such defendant, to summon such other person to attend at the hearing, before two or more such justices to answer the charge of such defendant in that behalf; and such charge shall be heard and determined as the justice of the case may require; and if the defendant shall satisfactorily prove that the offence mentioned in the original summons was wholly or in part caused by the negligence or wilful misconduct of such other person, the justices by and before whom the charge on brought by the original defendant is heard and determined, shall order the whole, or such part as they shall think fit, of the penalty and costs,